



COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY & FINANCING

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Bill Ritter, Jr., Governor • Joan Henneberry, Executive Director

Legislative Update, Week of February 26, 2010

On Monday of this week, HB10-1029, Concerning Agreements for the Purchase of Medical Goods, sponsored by Representative Acree and Senator Keller, passed on third reading in the House. The bill directs the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing to negotiate agreements with suppliers of high-quality durable medical equipment and medical supplies so that persons receiving public medical benefits or who are on a waiting list for the benefits can purchase high-quality equipment and supplies at the lowest cost.

House Bill 1330, sponsored by Representatives Kagan and Kefalas and Senator Morse, was heard before the House Health and Human Services Committee on Thursday of this week. This proposal is aimed at bringing down health care costs and improving the value of the care received by all Coloradans by implementing an all-payer claims database to provide consistent, transparent, and comprehensive data that captures the utilization and cost of health care services for the benefit of all stakeholders. Uses for an APCD include answering a wide variety of research, policy and stakeholder questions about health and health care by: determining utilization patterns and rates; assisting physicians in evaluating their performance relative to peers; and measuring performance relative to established guidelines accepted by key stakeholders. The bill passed out of committee on a vote of 11:0.

A proposal Concerning the Provision of Services through the Medicaid Program that are Related to Substance Abuse, HB10-1033, sponsored by Representative Massey and Senators Boyd and Schwartz, passed out of Health and Human Services and sent to the Committee on Appropriations with a favorable recommendation. This bill adds to the list of optional services provided to Medicaid recipients screening, brief intervention, and referral to treatment for alcohol and other substance abuse services.

On Wednesday, SB10-129, Concerning Care Coordination Services for Children with Autism, sponsored by Senator Hudak and Representative Rice, passed on Senate Second Reading and passed on Thirds on Friday. This proposed legislation would allow for more case management options for HCBS Children with Autism Waiver. It expands the current language, which designates Community Centered Boards (CCBs) as the Single Entry Point (SEP), to include CCBs, SEPs, or other department-approved case management agency.

For additional information please contact Ginny Brown at 303-815-0652 or Nicole Storm at 303-748-5310